

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 07593 131126Z

17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 PM-04 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ACDA-05

EB-07 L-03 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /063 W

----- 120328

O R 131100Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2871

INFO CHUSMTM DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 7593

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, MILI, SA, SY

SUBJECT: SAUDI F-5 MANEUVERS IN SYRIA

REF: A. STATE 268838; B. JIDDA 7277 (NOTAL); C. JIDDA 7240

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT 12 SAUDI F-5 AIRCRAFT OPERATED FROM JORDAN TO SUPPORT A ONE-DAY ANNUAL END-OF-TRAINING-CYCLE EXERCISE OF SAUDI TROOPS BASED IN SYRIA. THE TRAINING MANEUVERS, CALLED "EXERCISE AL-YARMUK," TOOK PLACE NOVEMBER 6.

2. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT JORDAN WAS SLECTED AS STAGING POINT FOR AIR FORCE SUPPORT BECAUSE F-5 RANGE IS TOO SHORT TO SAFELY PERMIT USE OF AIR BASE AT TOBUK FOR TRAINING OPERATIONS IN SYRIA.

3. WHILE EXERCISE WAS IN PLANNING STAGE, SAUDI AIR FORCE APPROACHED USMTM AND ASKED THAT SEVERAL US AIR FORCE AND NORTHRUP CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ACCOMPANY THE F-5 SQUADRON TO JORDAN. WE SAID THAT NEITHER US MILITARY OF CIVILIANS SHOULD ACCOMPANY RSAF TO JORDAN OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY OTHER WAY IN THE TRAINING EXERCISE, (REFS B AND C), AND INFORMED DEPARTMENT OF OUR POSITION.

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AT OUR SUGGESTION CHUSMTM PERSONALLY TOOK UP THE ISSUE

WITH MINDEF PRINCE SULTAN WHO ORDERED THAT NO US PERSONNEL PARTICIPATE IN THE EXERCISE AND AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE NO RPT NO US PERSONNEL - MILITARY OR CIVILIAN - ACCOMPANIED THE F-5 SQUADRON DURING THEIR TEMPORARY DEPLOYMENT TO JORDAN.

4. WE ARE REPEATING REF B TO SECSTATE FOR DEPARTMENT'S FURTHER INFORMATION.

AKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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06 JUL 2006

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